INDEPENDENT REVIEW OF THE NEW DEAL FOR ENGAGEMENT IN FRAGILE STATES

Main Messages

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In 2015, the International Dialogue on Peacebuilding and Statebuilding commissioned the NYU Centre on International Cooperation (CIC) with the production of the Independent Review of the New Deal for Engagement in Fragile States.

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The world faces old and new security challenges that are more complex than our multilateral and national institutions are currently capable of managing. International cooperation is ever more necessary in meeting these challenges. The NYU Center on International Cooperation (CIC) works to enhance international responses to conflict and insecurity through applied research and direct engagement with multilateral institutions and the wider policy community.

CIC’s programs and research activities span the spectrum of conflict insecurity issues. This allows us to see critical inter-connections between politics, security, development and human rights and highlight the coherence often necessary for effective response. We have a particular concentration on the UN and multilateral responses to conflict.

The New Deal for Engagement in Fragile States rests upon the mutual commitment of national and international partners to country-owned and country-led exits from fragility. Externally-imposed solutions do not work. In 2011, at the Busan Fourth High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness, the New Deal was launched with a powerful message: 1.5 billion of the world's poorest people lived in fragile situations. Without partnerships for first building peace, resilience and institutions, the eradication of poverty was not possible. The Millennium Development Goals failed to address this.

The UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) now recognize in SDG 16 that achieving peaceful and inclusive societies, access to justice and effective, accountable and inclusive institutions is fundamental for leaving no-one behind in any country. The SDGs agenda will, however, fail the world's poorest people by 2030 without concerted action to apply the partnership principles of the New Deal. Ending conflict, building institutions and resilience, and delivering basic services and growth could reduce the number of people in absolute poverty from 1.5 billion now to 350 million by 2030. It could also help societies manage new risks. Retreat from the New Deal principles should be inconceivable.

As an alliance, the g7+ group of countries has the opportunity to make a unique contribution to the sustainable development agenda as a leading coalition for leaving no-one behind. National leadership and ownership of policies and plans must be respected. Implementation of the New Deal so far has not been easy, reflecting a need for political leaders to recommit to the principles of the New Deal. This is especially true for political processes that bind all relevant actors into a shared vision for “what” needs to be achieved and “how.”

International partners could do much more to deliver their side of the New Deal bargain. The g7+ needs coherent, predictable and timely assistance to develop national capacities and fill finance gaps. Yet, the fragmentation of aid and development partners across the SDGs, and growing pressures on humanitarian aid, could make matters worse in the SDGs era. All international governmental and private sector partners need to rally to the institutional development priorities of the g7+.

This is why partners should commit to a New Deal for the New Deal. There must be a Ministerial Compact that recognizes the urgency of re-engaging on the New Deal principles for achieving the SDGs. The Compact should provide the basis for a new SDGs generation of strategy, planning, programming and monitoring, as well as global and regional partnerships and advocacy. The International Dialogue on Peacebuilding and Statebuilding could re-position itself as a multi-stakeholder and country-focused partnership for leaving no-one behind under the UN pledge of SDG 17 to “Partnerships for the SDGs.”
# The New Deal for Engagement in Fragile Situations

The New Deal principles are mutual commitments to country-owned and led plans to exit fragility and end poverty between the:

- **g7+** Group of 20 self-identified fragile, conflict-affected and transitional countries
- **CPPE**: Civil Society Platform for Peacebuilding and Statebuilding
- **INGC**: International Network on Conflict and Fragility (IDFC)

Who are members of the:

- **IDPS**: International Dialogue on Peacebuilding and Statebuilding

The International Dialogue on Peacebuilding and Statebuilding: Universal Goals

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## The New Deal Principles:
- Prioritize Peacebuilding and Statebuilding
- Conduct National Fragility Assessments
- Support Country-led and Country-Owned Plans
- Agree Compacts between State, Society & Partners
- Align Finance to National Priorities
- Build National Capacities and Institutions
- Monitor and Evaluate Results

## Lessons 2011-2015

- The g7+ is a leading coalition for leaving no-one behind in the SDGs...
- g7+ Ministries of Finance and Planning are major champions of the New Deal, thus most progress is in their area.
- But aid has not been directed to peacebuilding and statebuilding...
- Political leaders need to recommit to the New Deal principles and identify “what” needs to happen and “how” to build peace and end poverty
- And dialogue needs to include all actors

## Leave No-One Behind: Priorities 2016 and beyond

A New Deal for the New Deal in the SDGs Era

- It needs to widen dialogue with more partners in the SDGs era
- When entire national and international governments own the principles, partnerships change quickly for the better.
- ...and aid and national finances are under growing pressure from humanitarian crises and other shocks.

Through partnerships for building peace, resilience and institutions, the world could reduce the number of people in extreme poverty from 1.5 billion now to 350 million by 2030.

This is why partners should commit to a New Deal for the New Deal and a Ministerial Compact that recognizes the urgency of re-engaging on the New Deal principles for achieving the SDGs. Partners should commit to:

1. Strengthen partnerships and operational effectiveness of the New Deal
2. Use smarter aid to shrink crisis and build institutions and capacity
3. Invest in knowledge and research in developing countries for building peaceful and inclusive societies
4. Strengthen organizational impact of the IDPS

Expand National Dialogue
Expand International Dialogue